

COLLEGE READINESS

Description of Indicator

College readiness measures number of high school graduates eligible for admission to University of California and California State University (UC-CSU) campuses. It also measures Orange County high school graduates' performance on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

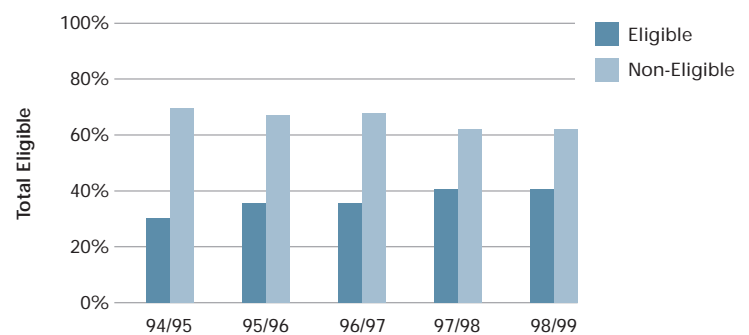
Why is it Important?

The local labor pool needs to be well educated and highly skilled in order to meet the needs of the Orange County economy. A college education or related skilled certification is increasingly important for today's jobs. To gain entry to most four-year universities, high school students must complete the necessary course work and perform well on standardized tests.

How is Orange County Doing?

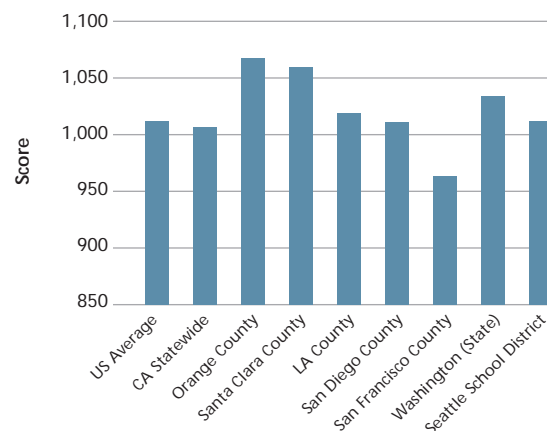
The number of UC-CSU eligible graduates in Orange County is increasing slowly over time. Yet in 1997/98, Santa Clara County (Silicon Valley), Los Angeles and Santa Barbara County all had a higher rate of eligible graduates. Compared to similar counties across the nation, Orange County students on average have a higher SAT score (1073 out of a possible 1600), scoring more than 50 points above the state and national average.

UC/CSU Eligible Graduates



Source: California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit – CEBEDS (www.ed-data.k12.ca.us)

1995-96 High School SAT Scores: Metro/State Comparisons



Source: California Dept. of Education; Seattle Public Schools